

STATE'S ATTORNEY

PROGRAM:

Pre-Trial Mediation

PROGRAM ELEMENT:

Bad Check Mediation Program

PROGRAM MISSION:

To provide the business community with a quick and effective way to recover their losses from bad checks, to identify repeat offenders and concentrate prosecution efforts on those offenders, and to lessen the burden on the court system while producing a successful result for the victim

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES SUPPORTED:

- A caring and thriving business community
- Respect for the law
- Efficient delivery of quality services

PROGRAM MEASURES

	FY01 ACTUAL	FY02 ACTUAL	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 CE REC
Outcomes/Results:					
Percentage of mediation cases successfully mediated ^a	68.7	68.1	64.2	68	69
Monetary restitution recovered (\$)	404,028	308,560	387,501	325,000	325,000
Percentage of bad check cases recovered without court intervention	65.6	63.3	62.0	65.0	66.0
Percentage of bad check cases referred to court after failure of mediation	29.8	29.6	34.6	32.0	31.0
Percentage of bad check cases involving repeat offenders ^b	3.4	6.5	2.3	2.0	2.0
Fees collected (\$)	22,400	19,520	16,540	24,500	24,000
Service Quality:					
Percentage of merchants surveyed who rate the quality of service of the program as "excellent" or "good"	95	100	93	95	95
Efficiency:					
Average amount per case recovered by the merchant (\$)	259.66	237.90	464.07	250.00	371.43
Amount recovered for every dollar spent (\$)	4.36	3.26	3.74	3.12	2.90
Workload/Outputs:					
Mediation cases opened	1,556	1,297	835	1,300	875
Cases identified as repeat offenders ^b	48	84	20	26	30
Inputs:					
Expenditures (\$) ^c	92,629	94,540	103,703	104,294	111,988
Workyears ^c	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5

Notes:

^aMediation cases exclude repeat offenders and a small number of bad check cases that cannot be mediated or prosecuted (e.g. due to lack of witnesses).

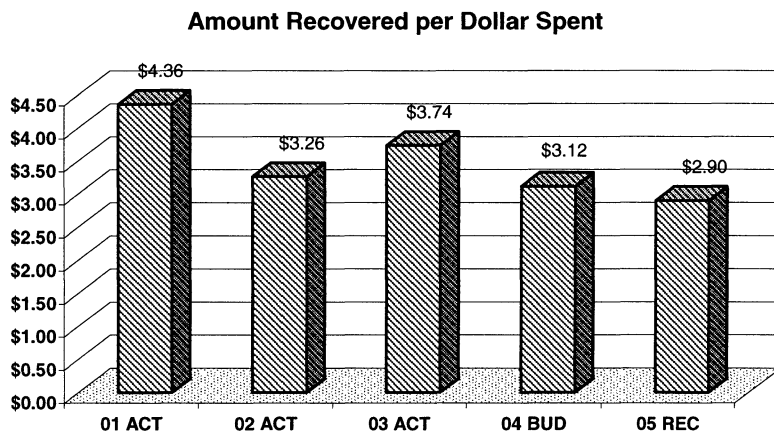
^bRepeat offender cases are taken to court without attempting mediation.

^cIncludes some staff time funded by the District Court.

EXPLANATION:

The goals of this program are to recover restitution for merchants who have been given bad checks without having to involve the criminal court system, and to review all bad checks reported in order to identify repeat criminal activity so that such matters can be charged criminally and dealt with by the court.

The success rate for mediation cases was 64.2% in FY03, while revenue from fees (which is returned to the County) totaled \$16,540, and \$3.74 was recovered for every dollar spent on the program. The number of repeat offender cases decreased 73% between FY00 and FY03.



PROGRAM PARTNERS IN SUPPORT OF OUTCOMES: District Court, Montgomery County Police.

MAJOR RELATED PLANS AND GUIDELINES:

STATE'S ATTORNEY

PROGRAM:

Pre-Trial Mediation

PROGRAM ELEMENT:

Rental Return Restitution Program

PROGRAM MISSION:

To provide the business community with a quick and effective way to recover lost rental property, to identify repeat offenders and concentrate prosecution efforts on those offenders, and to lessen the burden on the court system while producing a successful result for the victim

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES SUPPORTED:

- A caring and thriving business community
- Respect for the law
- Efficient delivery of quality services

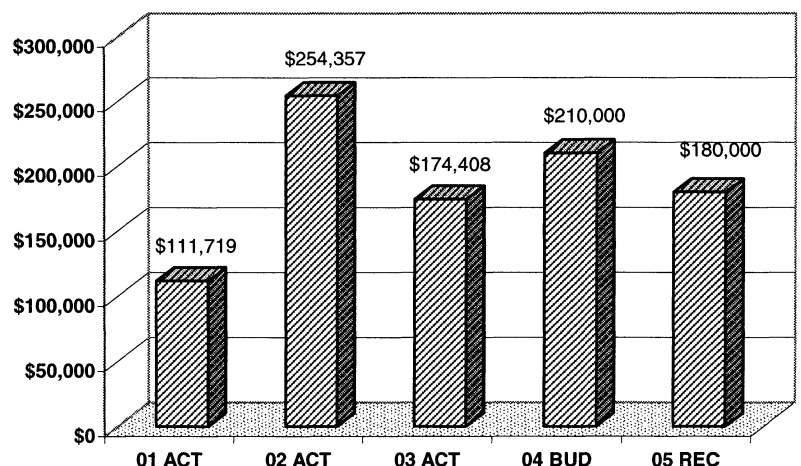
PROGRAM MEASURES

	FY01 ACTUAL	FY02 ACTUAL	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 CE REC
Outcomes/Results:					
Percentage of cases successfully mediated	50.5	61.1	52.7	55	56
Monetary value of rental property recovered (\$)	111,719	254,357	174,408	210,000	180,000
Fees collected (\$)	1,270	1,750	1,300	1,600	3,000
Service Quality:					
Percentage of merchants surveyed who rate the program's quality of service as "good" or "excellent"	NA	83.3	100	90	90
Efficiency:					
Average value of leased goods recovered by merchants (\$)	997	1,318	1,264	1,167	900
Amount recovered for every dollar spent (\$)	19.62	43.56	27.61	33.26	26.44
Workload/Outputs:					
Mediation cases opened	112	193	138	180	200
Inputs:					
Expenditures (\$)	5,694	5,839	6,316	6,314	6,809
Workyears	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Notes:
EXPLANATION:

The goals of this program are to recover rental property and/or secure restitution to those merchants that provide rental services to the public without having to involve the criminal court system. In those cases that cannot be successfully mediated, this program will review the case and prepare charges so that the case can be successfully prosecuted.

FY01 saw a 6.5 percentage point increase in the percentage of cases successfully mediated and a 278% increase in the value of rental property recovered. These measures continued to rise sharply in FY02, climbing to 61.1% and \$254,000, respectively. The results for FY03, although generally lower, came close to - and in some cases exceeded - the budget projection.

Monetary Value of Rental Property Recovered


PROGRAM PARTNERS IN SUPPORT OF OUTCOMES: Montgomery County Police, District Court.

MAJOR RELATED PLANS AND GUIDELINES: